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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 3-13-03

In re Patent Application of:
DeSALVO ET AL.

Serial No. 09/724,256

Filing Date: November 28, 2000

For: OPTICALLY AMPLIFIED
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SUBMISSION OF AN INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER §1.97(c) & (e)

Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Attached is a form PTO-1449 listing several references which may be considered material to the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of each reference is also enclosed.

Pursuant to §1.97(e), Applicants, by and through their undersigned attorney, certify pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(e) that either:

(1) each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, or

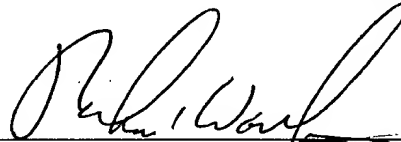
(2) no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to

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any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

Applicants respectfully request that the references cited herein be considered by the Examiner and officially made of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97(c) and (e).

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **DIRECTOR, U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE, WASHINGTON, DC 20231**, on this 5th day of March, 2003.

